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as well as know what it is; something which will burn within them when they take their places in the world's work, and urge them to play their effective parts in government and politics. If this is true, one cannot justly criticize a book which in the absence of that rare quality leaves one a little cold; but with the enormous possibilities of touching the imagination and the heart of young Americans whose minds have not yet been wholly set, one must regret that our equipment in civics textbooks is still fixed in the traditional descriptive forms. Among such books, however, the reviewer knows of none which are to be preferred to this ample volume by Professor Reed.

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*What Is Social Case Work? An Introductory Description.* By MARY E. RICHMOND. New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 1922. Pp. 268. \$1.00.

This volume reveals several important tendencies in social work: (a) the rapidity with which the thinking of social workers is approaching that of social scientists; (b) the increasing emphasis upon the social psychological aspects of case-work; (c) the rapidity with which social case-work is attaining the dignity of a profession; and (d) a growing willingness on the part of professional social workers to take the public into its confidence in the attack upon case-work problems.

The author answers the question set by the title thus: "Social case-work consists of those processes which develop personality through adjustments consciously effected, individual by individual, between men and their social environment" (p. 98). However, the cases chosen to illustrate the problems and methods of social case-work have been selected and discussed in a manner which may suggest to some social workers that a more precise title would be: "What Is Social Case Work, Ideally?"

Miss Richmonds' long experience in first-hand contact with the problems in this field lend unusual authority to her writings. The subject-matter is so presented that it is wholly intelligible to interested laymen and at the same time it is an important addition to the library of the professional.

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